



NOV 20 2006
**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,

Provides for continued examination of a utility or plant

Application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

RCE
Application Number: 10/026,144
Filing Date: December 21, 2001
First Named Inventor: Christiaan Mets, et al.
Group Art Unit: 2161
Examiner Name: Kavita Padmanabhan
Attorney Docket Number: I20 02220 US
CUSTOMER NO.: 27,623

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Note: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 153 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (August 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (March 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. _____ Previously submitted

i. _____ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 previously filed on _____ (any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

ii. _____ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____

iii. _____ Other _____

b. XXXXXX Enclosed

i. XXXXXX Amendment/Reply with transmittal

ii. _____ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. _____ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) and PTO-1449

iv. _____ Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

a. _____ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) required)

b. _____ Other _____

3. Fees The RCE fee Under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. XXXXXX The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 01-0467.

i. XXXXXX RCE fee (\$790.00/\$395.00) required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e)

ii. _____ Extension of Time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. _____ Other _____

b. XXXXXX Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed

c. _____ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

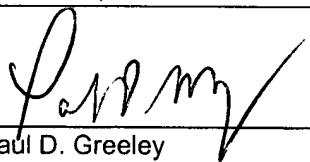
November 16, 2006

Date of Signature

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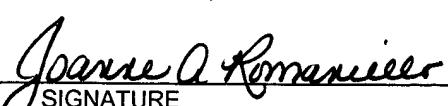
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on November 16, 2006.

Joanne A. Romaniello
NAME


SIGNATURE

11/16/2006
DATE